

## REMARKS

Upon entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 5-8, 19-22 and 24-45 will be pending in this application. Claims 25, 27, 29 and 31 are independent. Applicant has canceled claims 1-4, 9-18 and 23 without prejudice to the subject matter contained therein.

Applicant has amended original claims to conform to U.S. patent practice and no estoppel or other limitations have been created.

Applicant has not raised any issue of new matter.

### Conclusion

The specification is believed to be in the proper format. The present claims define patentable subject matter. Favorable action is solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that a conference would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application, please telephone Applicants' Attorney at the number below.

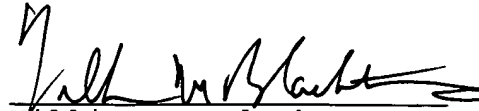
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2334 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly,

-10-

Attorney Docket: I-2002.011 US  
Customer No.: 31846  
Express Mail: EV 561841586 US

extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,



William M. Blackstone  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 29,772

Akzo Nobel Pharma Patent Dept.  
29160 Intervet Lane  
P.O. Box 318  
Millsboro, DE 19966  
DE Tel: (302) 934-4317  
MD Tel: (410) 464-0581  
Fax: (302) 934-4305

-11-

Attorney Docket: I-2002.011 US  
Customer No.: 31846  
Express Mail: EV 561841586 US